465 656 wages. After the war, together with the rise in living expenses, repeated demands for higher wages, accompanied by work stoppages, were made by the trade unions. In 1945 the government issued a decree according to which wages were to be raised commensurate with the cost of living, and this started a competition between prices and wages which has greatly promoted the general inflation and has now become one of the major financial problems in modern Finland.

465 Together with this trend for higher wages, there has been a demand for reduction of the margin between the wages paid to skilled and to seasonal workers. The combined influences of labor and the post-war scarcity of food and other essentials caused wages to rise beyond the level

511 465 established by Wage Regulation orders. If the cost of living index is supposed to have been

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511 100 in 1939, in 1950 it was 911, and the general
465 trend for higher prices and higher wages still prevails.

The following table shows the wage norms and average hourly earnings (in marks) in certain industries in 1939-1948 as compared with the cost of living index:

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| | 1939 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cost of living index | 100 | 201 | 282 | 450 | 681 | 804 |
| New cost of living index | | | | | 100 | 112 |
| **Wage norms** | | | | | | |
| Agricultural work | | 8:40 | 15:50 | 22:- | 43:25 | 48:- |
| Forestry | 4:63 | 12:21 | 26:- | 34:38 | 52:50 | 58:28 |
| General labor (State) | 4:60 | 9:14 | 20:- | 26:50 | 41:25 | 45:75 |
| **Men's average hourly earnings** | | | | | | |
| Pottery trade | 11:25 | 28:39 | 40:44 | 57:- | 99:70 | 111:42 |
| Machine shops | 9:44 | 22:02 | 37:20 | 52:73 | 80:94 | 102:99 |

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| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sulphite pulp mills | 7:71 | 17:54 | 31:66 | 45:13 | 81:50 | 96:94 |
| Sawmills | 8:09 | 17:66 | 30:30 | 43:15 | 73:85 | 90:84 |
| Sugar factories | 8:48 | 15:80 | 26:53 | 35:74 | 68:70 | 80:57 |
| Cotton mills | 7:32 | 16:39 | 26:78 | 38:86 | 49:91 | 72:31 |
| **Women's average hourly earnings** | | | | | | |
| Pottery trade | 6:49 | 17:20 | 29:18 | 41:88 | 68:72 | 79:93 |
| Machine shops | 5:66 | 12:78 | 26:16 | 34:88 | 57:52 | 71:02 |
| Sulphite pulp mills | 4:28 | 10:22 | 22:15 | 31:70 | 61:87 | 71:74 |
| Sawmills | 4:06 | 9:99 | 20:44 | 29:28 | 51:78 | 62:19 |
| Sugar factories | 5:17 | 9:61 | 19:63 | 27:86 | 51:70 | 61:42 |
| Cotton mills | 4:51 | 10:33 | 19:38 | 29:41 | 37:88 | 55:51 |

Annex "A," Subparagraph lq,

Sociological Background

PUBLIC WELFARE

511 The recent war and the years immediately following created in Finland an acute shortage of food and clothing which especially affected the city dwellers, regardless of their social positions. It was practically impossible to get along without the help of the black market, which of course, placed the wealthier in a more favorable position. In 1948, however, a sharp turn to the better took place, consumer goods began to be available to everyone, the black market lost its significance, and today the diet and the clothing of the Finns are wholly adequate, even taking into consideration the harsh climatic conditions of the country.

000 Another problem created by the war was the

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Kuopio 7:6 per cent. The cities, of course, have long been completely electrified.

Recently, more and more farmhouses have installed running water, but, characteristically, only after their barns and stall had been taken care of.

Various women's associations have made great efforts to improve the general living standards in the country. Mostly, the inadequate conditions have been caused by general disinterest rather than by actual lack of means.

Visitors have long commented on the cleanliness of the Finns, as shown in their dwellings, even the very modest ones, and in their personal hygiene. Of course there is still room for improvement, but it can at least be said that it is safe to eat and to drink anything anywhere in Finland, as far as cleanliness of the food is concerned.

352 The big living rooms and kitchens in the country homes are often pleasant looking and cozy with their handcarved heirloom furniture, woven rugs and tapestries. Rocking chairs are inevitable in the country homes as well as in the more crowded establishments in cities, and it is practically impossible to come across a Finnish home, no matter how modest, which does not have its window sills filled with flowering plants. The Finns are extremely fond of flowers, no doubt because of their long and dreary winters.

511 There do not exist any marked deviances in living standards in the different parts of the country. The poorest regions are those in the northeast, next to the Russian border, where the soil is barren and the families often too large for the parents to care for properly.

1:Indiana U S-4, 5(no date)1955 EO1 Finland EO1

511 Much public and voluntary work is being done to improve the conditions in those areas. Even in the south, in the outer islands of the archipelago, the fishermen often have to get along without the necessities of life, as the soil is too rocky to feed a cow or to grow potatoes, and communication with the mainland is often hampered by storms and ice.

61 There are no slum areas in the cities; the daily sweeping of streets and cleaning of the market places keep the cities very clean. Since industry uses water power instead of coal, even cities like Tampere, an industrial center crowded with large factories, can offer a spectacle of white buildings and verdant parks.

735 Beggary is non-existent, and the class of vagabonds is mainly represented by gypsies, who are more numerous in Finland than in any other Northern country.

2: Anonymous G-4, 5 (no date) 1939 RB1 Baltic Countries
Finland E01



465 313 markkaa in the Lapland district to 3.75 markkaa on the southern coast. The corresponding maximum and minimum standards for 1937 were 5.00 and 3.50 markkaa, respectively.

### VARIOUS INDUSTRIES

465 Wage statistics in Finland are based on data provided by employers' federations and are somewhat influenced by the fact that in some industries information is not available for small companies not affiliated with these federations. Furthermore, the level of wages is also largely dependent on the relative cost of living in the different communes in which the industries are located. Table 11 gives both hourly wages and average yearly earnings in specified industries for able-bodied workers over 18 years of age, by sex, for 1936 and 1937. The figures include overtime and piece-work pay as well as payments [511] in kind and other benefits. It is also noted that since the cost of living, according to official index figures, was 5 percent higher in 1937 than in 1936, the purchasing power of earnings did not increase as much as the figures in the table would indicate.

TABLE 11.—*Average Hourly Wages and Yearly Earnings of Industrial Workers in Finland, by Sex and Industry, 1936 and 1937*

[Average exchange rate of markka in 1936 and 1937=2.2 cents]

| Industry | Males | | | Females | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1936 | 1937 | Percent of increase | 1936 | 1937 | Percent of increase |
| | **Average hourly wages** | | | | | |
| | *Markkaa* | *Markkaa* | | *Markkaa* | *Markkaa* | |
| Blast furnaces and metal works | 5.81 | 7.07 | 21.7 | 3.55 | 4.38 | 30.7 |
| Machine shops | 7.45 | 8.44 | 13.3 | 4.73 | 5.32 | 12.5 |
| China and pottery factories | 9.06 | 9.72 | 7.3 | 5.27 | 5.60 | 6.3 |
| Spinning and weaving industry | 6.93 | 7.34 | 5.9 | 4.08 | 4.37 | 7.1 |
| Woolen mills | 6.75 | 7.10 | 5.2 | 4.16 | 4.40 | 5.8 |
| Cotton mills | 6.97 | 7.46 | 7.0 | 4.02 | 4.35 | 8.2 |
| Linen mills | 7.30 | 7.32 | .3 | 4.23 | 4.38 | 3.5 |
| Hosiery factories | 6.22 | 7.96 | 28.0 | 4.90 | 5.08 | 3.7 |
| Pulp and paper mills | 6.74 | 7.57 | 12.3 | 3.46 | 4.01 | 15.9 |
| Mechanical pulp and cardboard mills | 6.20 | 7.18 | 15.8 | 3.33 | 3.97 | 19.2 |
| Sulphite mills | 6.65 | 7.67 | 15.3 | 3.74 | 4.28 | 14.4 |
| Sulphate mills | 7.25 | 7.92 | 9.2 | 3.61 | 4.13 | 14.4 |
| Paper mills | 6.69 | 7.49 | 12.0 | 3.29 | 3.82 | 16.1 |
| Sawmills and planing mills | 6.03 | 6.83 | 13.3 | 3.20 | 3.63 | 13.4 |
| Sugar refineries | 7.59 | 7.94 | 4.6 | 4.56 | 4.81 | 5.5 |
| | **Average yearly earnings** | | | | | |
| | *Markkaa* | *Markkaa* | | *Markkaa* | *Markkaa* | |
| Blast furnaces and metal works | 14,410 | 16,488 | 14.4 | 8,615 | 10,219 | 18.6 |
| Machine shops | 17,960 | 20,628 | 14.9 | 11,108 | 12,792 | 15.2 |
| China and pottery factories | 22,447 | 25,843 | 6.2 | 11,207 | 12,997 | 16.0 |
| Spinning and weaving industry | 16,417 | 17,623 | 7.3 | 9,061 | 9,932 | 9.6 |
| Woolen mills | 15,840 | 17,072 | 7.8 | 9,436 | 9,889 | 4.8 |
| Cotton mills | 16,630 | 17,929 | 7.8 | 8,816 | 9,902 | 12.3 |
| Linen mills | 16,831 | 17,411 | 3.4 | 9,650 | 10,375 | 7.5 |
| Hosiery factories | 14,250 | 18,907 | 32.7 | 11,055 | 11,546 | 4.4 |
| Pulp and paper mills | 17,097 | 19,239 | 12.5 | 8,597 | 9,802 | 14.0 |
| Mechanical pulp and cardboard mills | 15,956 | 17,881 | 12.1 | 8,572 | 9,716 | 13.3 |
| Sulphite mills | 17,388 | 19,586 | 12.6 | 9,296 | 10,637 | 14.4 |
| Sulphate mills | 18,283 | 20,048 | 9.7 | 8,955 | 10,075 | 12.5 |
| Paper mills | 16,918 | 19,197 | 13.5 | 8,116 | 9,284 | 14.4 |
| Sawmills and planing mills | 13,879 | 15,656 | 12.8 | 7,151 | 7,843 | 9.7 |
| Sugar refineries | 18,584 | 19,415 | 4.5 | 10,356 | 11,172 | 7.9 |